

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1429
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
DELAY IN COMMISSIONING OF TOWERS
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether nearly 900 towers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited which can provide mobile connections to 10 lakh subscribers are lying idle even after their erection for the last one year in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in commissioning; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Sir, as on date 421 towers of BSNL are ready in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- (b) The reasons for delay in commissioning of towers are:
 - (i) The equipment procurement efforts for BSNL's new mobile expansion project received a setback with one of the bidders approaching the Hon'ble High Court against the decision of BSNL rejecting their bid.
 - (ii) None of the successful vendors of the new mobile expansion project accepted the Purchase Order for South Zone, which includes Andhra Pradesh also.
- (c) The tender for the South Zone is being invited. Accordingly, the towers are expected to be commissioned in the year 2008-09.